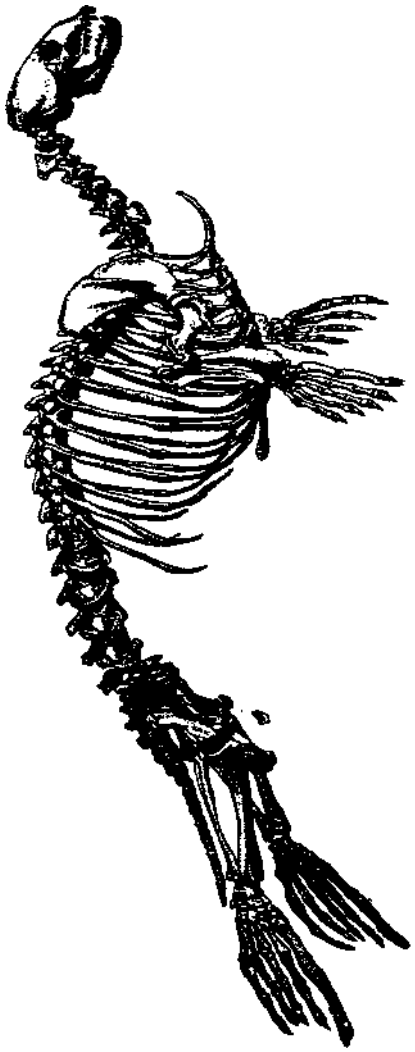

FIG. 227.—Skeleton of Seal. *Phoca vitulina*. (After de Blainville.)

where, however, it is the milk dentition that is most pronounced, the "permanent" being feeble and very early shed. Bufc the dentition of the Pinnipedes presents other likenesses to the Oetacea, "which are, it must be remembered, regarded by some as a modification of the Carnivorous stock, in which case, of course, the likenesses may be genetic rather than due to adaptation in the two cases. There is a distinct tendency towards a homodont series, the grinding teeth being often very simple, and the very distinct carnassial tooth of many terrestrial Carnivores being

absent. Finally, the number of the back teeth shows some signs of being on the increase; and Professor Kukenthal has found that this increase is due to the division of existing teeth. Here is a point of likeness to the many teeth of the typical Toothed "Whales. Br. Kehring found in several examples of *Halichoerus grypus* the normal five back teeth increased to